

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently Amended) A document retrieval system including a user search interface, the system comprising:
 - a database selecting part for selecting at least one database to be searched from a plurality of databases including keyword-search-type databases and associative-document-search-type databases;
 - a document information display part for displaying document information received as search results;
 - a topic word display part for displaying topic words included in a document referenced in the document information display part;
 - word selecting means for selecting words displayed in the topic word display part; and
 - a first search start button for initiating a document retrieval by using the words selected by said word selecting means as a first query; and
 - a means for modifying and confirming a Boolean expression that associates a plurality of words included in said first query, based on a search type of said keyword-search-type databases.
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Cancelled).

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9. (Currently Amended) The document retrieval system as described in Claim [[8]]6, further comprising:
- a means for sending information about the selected databases to be searched and query information to a search server.
10. (Currently Amended) The document retrieval system of Claim [[8]]6, further comprising:
- a keyword input part for inputting keywords for a keyword search;
 - document selecting means for selecting documents referenced in the document information display part; and
 - a second search button for initiating a document retrieval using a document selected by the document selecting means as a second query.
11. (Original) The document retrieval system as described in Claim 10, further comprising:
- document content display means for displaying the contents of a document referenced in the document information display part;
 - means for registering at least a portion of a document displayed by the document content display means; and
 - a third search button for initiating a document retrieval by using said registered portion as a third query.
12. (Original) The document retrieval system of Claim 6, wherein said topic words are automatically generated on a search server by a summarizing means.
13. (Currently Amended) A document retrieval method, comprising the steps of:
- receiving search results from a search server identifying at least one document;
 - specifying at least a part of a document identified in said search results as a query for a database search;
 - sending a search request to said search server requesting to search at least one

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keyword-search-type database using said query;

modifying and confirming a Boolean expression created by said search server which associates words in said query, based on a search type of said keyword-search-type database; and

sending said confirmed Boolean expression to said search server.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A search server that receives a search request from a document retrieval terminal, issues the search request to specified databases, and sends edited search results to the document retrieval terminal, said search server comprising:

summarizing means for creating a summary from words extracted from at least a part of a document when said at least a part of the document is specified as a search term; and

query constructing means for sending the summary created by the summarizing means to a specified associative-document-search-type database as a query; and

means for requesting confirmation and modification of a Boolean search request for a keyword-search-type database from the document retrieval terminal before issuing said request to the database, based on a search type of said keyword-search-type database.

17. (Original) The search server of Claim 16, further comprising:

topic word requesting means for requesting said associative-document-search-type database to create a summary representation of the contents of a document corresponding to a document ID when said document ID is returned from the associative-document-search-type database as a search result, wherein said query constructing means is adapted to send summaries obtained from said associative-document-search-type database by the topic word requesting means to at least one additional associative-document-search-type databases as a query.

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18. (Original) The search server as described in Claim 17, further comprising:
search result merging means for merging a plurality of document summaries to create a set of topic words when said plurality of document summaries are returned from an associative-document-search-type database in response to a request from the topic word requesting means.
 19. (Original) The search server of Claim 16, wherein said search server is adapted to send a document retrieval request to at least one keyword-search-type database and at least one associative-document-search-type database in response to a single search request from the document retrieval terminal.
 20. (Cancelled).
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